

**MERRITT ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2006**

**Members Present:** Sandee Natowich, Chairman  
Marcus Herman, Vice-Chairman  
Alice Bubeck  
Betsy Keenan  
Ozella Bowles  
Dick Van Epp  
Fran Quattrocchi

**Members Absent:** None

**Agency Staff:** Tina Anderson, MIRA Special Projects Coordinator  
Greg Lugar, MIRA Executive Director

**Guests:** Randy Raiman, RLA, ASLA, Herbert-Halback, Inc. (HHI)

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2006 3:00 P.M. MERRITT ISLAND GOVERNMENT CENTER, 2575 N. COURTENAY PARKWAY, ROOM 205, MERRITT ISLAND.**

Chairman Natowich called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M. All were present except those indicated above.

The minutes of the November 17, 2005 MIRA Beautification Committee meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION MADE BY OZELLA BOWLES, SECONDED BY ALICE BUBECK, APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2005 MIRA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item No. 1 – Presentation Re: S.R. 520 Gateway Signage Design Opportunities / Streetscape and Landscaping along S.R. 3 (N. Courtenay Parkway)**

Fran Quattrocchi arrived at the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Chairman Sandee Natowich introduced Randy Raiman with Herbert-Halback, Inc. (HHI) to the Beautification Committee. As background, Greg Lugar commented that the MIRA agency went through the selection process to choose a new engineering consulting firm. Dyer, Riddle, Mills & Precourt, Inc. was chosen and they brought HHI to handle the landscaping architect aspect of the projects. Mr. Lugar advised that at the last MIRA meeting HHI provided the agency with concept drawings of the east and west entry signs to the MIRA area on S.R. 520. Mr. Lugar commented that

due to larger projects that the MIRA Board is involved in at this time, the MIRA Board decided to task the Beautification Committee to work with HHI to decide on a final concept design for the entry signs. Mr. Raiman distributed three different concept designs to the Beautification Committee. Mr. Raiman discussed the three designs along with the different types of landscaping that would be available surrounding the entry signs. Mr. Raiman commented that the name Merritt Island would be illuminated and would be seen from a distance. Mrs. Bowles reminded the Committee that Keep Brevard Beautiful had agreed to maintain the landscaping around the east entry sign. Mrs. Natowich suggested using the MIRA logo on the entry sign or the County seal. Mrs. Natowich suggested that Mr. Raiman return to the February Beautification Committee meeting with a final concept design of the obelisk sign, which would include the construction material, color, price, the MIRA logo and landscaping.

**MOTION MADE BY MARCUS HERMAN SECONDED BY OZELLA BOWLES TO RECOMMEND THAT HERBERT-HALBACK, INC. (HHI) RENDER A DRAWING OF THE OBELISK SIGN FOR THE ENTRANCE TO MERRITT ISLAND ON S. R. 520. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Lugar commented on MIRA's desire to expand the MIRA boundary on S.R. 3 from Merritt Avenue to Lucas Road which would include façade and landscape improvements. Mr. Lugar advised that the MIRA Board commissioned Doug Robertson do a Slum and Blight Study of the area and that Mr. Robertson would be making a presentation of the report at the next MIRA Board meeting. Mr. Lugar advised that FDOT has the segment from S.R. 520 to Skylark Avenue out on bids to enhance the intersections and redesign the medians. Mr. Lugar commented that there have been several meetings held with Commissioner Ron Pritchard, FDOT, Brevard County Landscaping, Metropolitan Transportation, HHI and MIRA staff to discuss the improvements on S.R. 3.

Mr. Lugar advised that FDOT had dedicated \$150,000 of the project to Brevard County to landscape the medians from S.R. 520 to Skylark Avenue. Mr. Lugar stated that there is an agreement between the Board of County Commissioners and FDOT to enter into an agreement to access funds as well as the Board of County Commissioners agreeing to maintain the road work. Mr. Lugar discussed HHI's concept plan that was presented to the MIRA Board. Mr. Lugar commented that if MIRA agreed to the expansion of the district, MIRA would need to get involved with the master plan and discuss what types of landscaping material they would like located in the medians. Mr. Lugar advised that the plan would have MIRA adopt the road project and move forward to request the Brevard County Commissioners to accept the Slum and Blight Study so that MIRA would be able to expand the MIRA district to Lucas Road and pursue doing a master landscape plan for that corridor.

Ozella Bowles commented that she had noticed that the muhly grass located in the median on S. R. 520 in front of the Super Wal-Mart had been removed. Mrs. Natowich advised that the MIRA staff had been notified by Brevard County Road and Bridge that the grass had been removed due to excessive weeds. Mrs. Natowich commented that the area would be treated for weeds, rototilled, mulched and replanted with new muhly grass in March.

**Agenda Item 2 – Discussion/Approval Re: Commercial Façade Improvement Award – Duane Watson, Trustee, 76 E. Merritt Island Causeway, Merritt Island.**

Chairman Natowich reviewed the before and after photographs on Mr. Watson's building located at 76 E. Merritt Island Causeway with the Committee.

**MOTION MADE BY MARCUS HERMAN SECONDED BY ALICE BUBECK TO RECOMMEND TO THE MIRA BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CFIP AWARD TO DUANE WATSON, TRUSTEE FOR HIS PROPERTY LOCATED AT 76 E. MERRITT ISLAND CAUSEWAY, MERRITT ISLAND. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item 3 – Old Business**

- Mrs. Natowich reported that she had been re-appointed by the MIRA Board to be Chairman of the MIRA Beautification Committee.
- Mrs. Anderson reported that MIRA is still waiting for FPL to relocate the power pole so that construction can begin on the berm located at the intersection of Sykes Creek Parkway and Merritt Avenue. Mrs. Anderson advised that she had been informed by FPL that the pole would be relocated in January.
- Mrs. Anderson reported that twenty trees had been replanted in Merritt Park Place to replace the trees that were destroyed during the 2004 hurricanes.

**Agenda Item 8 – Other Business**

- Mrs. Natowich reported that Duane Watson had resigned as Chairman of the MIRA Board of Directors and that Ralph Perrone had been appointed by Commissioner Ron Pritchard to replace Mr. Watson.
- Mrs. Natowich commented on the 2005 Keep Brevard Beautiful Award that Fran Quattrocchi received for her commercial building on N. Tropical Trail.
- Mrs. Natowich reported that she had been appointed to the Historical Society Commission by Commissioner Ron Pritchard.

**MOTION MADE BY FRAN QUATTROCCHI, SECONDED BY OZELLA BOWLES TO ADJOURN. NEXT SCHEDULED MIRA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:35.